

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. A system for accumulating information pertaining to the operating parameters, operating history and status of computers for use in diagnostic evaluation, comprising:

5 a computer having an operating system controlling at least one process, the process comprising a sequence of states of operation;

a memory storage coupled to the computer, the memory storage capable of permanently storing data from the computer;

10 a memory, coupled to the computer, the memory containing stored program instructions executable by the computer, comprising:

monitoring the status of a process within the computer;

logging the status data of a process within the computer upon a change in the status of the process;

accumulating the status data; and

15 writing the status data to the memory storage.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the memory storage coupled to the computer is a removable memory storage device.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein status data is accumulated in a first-in, first-out queue.

20 4. A method for accumulating information pertaining to the operating parameters, operating history and status of computers for use in diagnostic evaluation, comprising:

monitoring the status of a task within a computer;

if the task is active, logging the status data of the task within the computer;



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if an event occurs related to the task, logging any change in status of the task caused by the event;

accumulating the status data; and

writing the status data to a memory storage coupled to the computer.

5 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the memory storage coupled to the computer is a removable memory storage device.

6. The method of claim 4, wherein status data is accumulated in a first-in, first-out queue.

7. A method for accumulating information pertaining to the operating parameters, 10 operating history and status of computers for use in diagnostic evaluation, comprising:

monitoring the status of a plurality of tasks within a computer;

if a task is active, logging the status data of the task within the computer;

if an event occurs related to an active task, logging any change in status of the task caused by the event;

15 accumulating the status data for each active task;

merging the status data for a plurality of active tasks in a first-in, first-out queue;

writing the status data to a memory storage coupled to the computer.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein logging the status data of the task within the computer comprises noting the unique identification of the active task and the time the status 20 data is presented.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein the memory storage coupled to the computer is a removable memory storage device.



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